



# Information for Retailers on the Meth Precursor Control Act

## NEW RESTRICTIONS ON THE SALE OF PRODUCTS CONTAINING EPHEDRINE OR PSEUDOEPHEDRINE (PSE) TAKE EFFECT JANUARY 15, 2006

### How does the MPCA restrict the sale of products containing ephedrine or PSE?

Starting January 15, 2006, the MPCA restricts the sale of ephedrine and PSE products in these ways:

- **Products behind pharmacy counters.** All products containing ephedrine or PSE – except for convenience packages – must be kept behind pharmacy counters and sold by pharmacists or pharmacy technicians.
- **Exception for convenience packages.** Convenience packages are packages that contain up to 360 milligrams of ephedrine or PSE in the form of a liquid or liquid-filled capsule (an quantity that exceeds the recommended amount of ephedrine or PSE that an adult may take in a 24-hour period). Convenience packages may be stored away from pharmacies and sold by non-pharmacy salespersons, provided the salespersons receive special training and the products are kept behind store counters or in locked cases. A consumer may purchase only one convenience package in a 24-hour period.
- **Identification and log requirements.** A consumer wishing to purchase products containing ephedrine or PSE without a prescription must show a government-issued photo ID and sign a log showing the name and address of the person, the date and time of the transaction, the brand and product name, and the total amount of ephedrine or PSE sold. Information contained in these logs must be shown to law enforcement authorities upon request but must otherwise be kept confidential.
- **Limit of two packages per transaction.** Without a prescription for a greater amount, a consumer may purchase no more than two packages of products containing ephedrine or PSE in a single retail transaction (and no more than one “convenience package” in a 24-hour period, as noted above).
- **Limit of 7500 milligrams in 30 days.** Without a prescription for a greater amount, a consumer may buy products containing no more than 7500 milligrams of ephedrine or PSE in a 30-day period. 7500 milligrams exceeds the recommended amount of ephedrine or PSE that an adult may take in a 30-day period.
- **No sales to minors.** A consumer must be 18 years of age or older in order to purchase any product containing ephedrine or PSE.

### What are the penalties for violating the MPCA?

- **Retailers.** A retailer that violates the MPCA is guilty of a petty or business offense and subject to a fine of \$500 for a first offense, \$1,000 for a second offense, and \$5,000 for a third or subsequent offense.
- **Employees.** An employee or agent of a retailer who violates the MPCA is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor for a first offense, a Class 4 felony for a second offense, and a Class 1 felony for a third or subsequent offense.
- **Customers.** A consumer who violates the MPCA is guilty of a Class B misdemeanor for a first offense, a Class A misdemeanor for a second offense, and a Class 4 felony for a third or subsequent offense.

### How can I get more information?

Additional information on the MPCA, and on meth generally, is available on the MethNet section of the Illinois Attorney General's Web site at [www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov/methnet](http://www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov/methnet).

Please visit [www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov](http://www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov)